

Invitation to Irish Climate Leadership Forum: Showcasing the business value for corporate climate leadership in Ireland

13:00-19:00, 11 October 2018, PwC – Spencer Dock, N Wall Quay, North Wall, Dublin 1

Natural Capital Partners, PwC and Business in the Community Ireland are pleased to invite you to Ireland's first Climate Leadership Forum, which will explore how businesses can accelerate progress towards net zero carbon emissions and create business value.

This exclusive invitation-only event will bring together business leaders from across the Irish corporate sector, including domestic and multinational organisations. It will inspire and engage, providing a forum for globally recognised climate leaders Microsoft and Marks & Spencer, to share their story; with experts analysing trends and opportunities from Natural Capital Partners and PwC; and showcasing Irish-based solutions in renewable electricity and gas, native woodland creation, carbon offsetting and climate financing.

About the Irish Climate Leadership Forum

We firmly believe that Ireland has the potential to become a global leader on climate change, with business leading the way. Natural Capital Partners and PwC, with the support of Business in the Community Ireland, have come together to host Ireland's first Climate Leadership Forum to create momentum for business leadership on climate in Ireland. The forum will provide a platform for debate amongst business leaders, stakeholders, policymakers, investors and influencers, providing proven strategies and solutions for reducing climate impacts and delivering sustainable development outcomes.

Agenda

The forum agenda is in two parts:

1. Business case for climate leadership and carbon neutrality:

- Keynote speaker – call to action on climate
- PwC – business landscape and trends
- Natural Capital Partners – business case for climate leadership
- Marks & Spencer – taking the lead; Plan A and climate leadership
- Microsoft – Carbon fee, renewable energy, Irish forestry and beyond
- Panel – value creation via climate action

Refreshments

2. Irish climate action solutions:

- Ministerial speaker: Ireland as a climate leader
- Impact Bureau – the state of the market; current climate commitments in Ireland
- Brookfield Renewable – corporate opportunities for renewable energy consumption
- Forest Service (DAFM) – financing native Irish woodland creation
- Gas Networks Ireland – green gas for corporate consumption
- Business in the Community Ireland – low carbon pledge catalysing business action
- Vita Green Impact Fund – carbon offsetting and climate financing internationally
- Panel – driving impact via Irish solutions

Drinks Reception

Natural Capital Partners

Natural Capital Partners is a recognised leader in the design, development and delivery of corporate climate action programmes. We work with more than 300 clients in 33 countries to ensure their environmental programmes deliver value for their business; including Microsoft, Marks & Spencer, H&M, Salesforce, Sky, Avis, UPS, ING, VMware, Freshfields, and Tata Global Beverages. With 20 years' experience and a global network of project partners, we work with our clients to deliver high quality solutions that ensure immediate, positive impact on the world's natural capital. We have partnered with more than 350 projects in 32 countries, delivering emission reductions, building renewable energy demand and supporting low carbon sustainable development. For the last eight consecutive years we have won awards voted for by industry peers at the annual Environmental Finance Awards, including Best Advisory Service for the last two years.

We have been at the forefront of the development of corporate climate action and carbon neutrality. We established the first standard on carbon neutrality – The CarbonNeutral Protocol – which still today stands as the reference point for best practice and certification. We transacted the first VCS offsets. We co-founded the International Carbon Reduction and Offset Alliance (ICROA), where we now lead on its Insetting Working Group. We developed UNICEF's first carbon offsetting project. Our clients are award winners – three clients have won UNFCCC Momentum for Change awards for their carbon neutral programmes with us: Microsoft, Marks & Spencer, and Fetzer.

PwC

At PwC, our purpose is to build trust in society and solve important problems. We're a network of firms in 158 countries with more than 236,000 people who are committed to delivering quality in assurance, advisory and tax services. Find out more and tell us what matters to you by visiting us at www.pwc.ie.

Business in the Community Ireland

Business in the Community Ireland (BITCI)'s vision is to have all businesses in Ireland responsible and sustainable. Through our network of over 90 member organisations, our mission is to harness the power of Irish business to maximise its positive impact on all its stakeholders and society. Utilising our unique expertise and in demand to the companies who wanted to be best in class, we created the Business Working Responsibly Mark, Ireland's only certified standard for sustainability and CSR. Audited by the NSAI and based on ISO 26000, the Mark is the premier business standard in Ireland.

In May 2018, BITCI launched The Leaders' Group on Sustainability, a coalition of Ireland's leading organisations who have achieved the Business Working Responsibly Mark. The aim of this group is to improve the sustainability of the Irish business sector through sharing best practice and creating new ways of doing business. One of the key focus areas for the Group is Ireland's transition to a Low Carbon Economy, and ensuring businesses take the lead in this agenda. The first action from the Group has been the development of a Low Carbon Pledge, which is aimed at getting companies to record, report and reduce their carbon emissions. This will hopefully lay the foundations for Irish business to act as a catalyst for wider, complementary initiatives and actions in their own operations and that of the communities they operate in.

Registration

- Two seats will be provided to each invited organisation; one for executive business leadership (e.g. CEO, CFO, COO); and one for climate/sustainability specialist (e.g. Sustainability/Environment/Climate Director or equivalent).
- Other job functions may be considered under certain circumstances if one of the invited delegates is unavailable, please provide specific information on role and responsibility, in your reply.
- Seats will be allocated on a first come, first serviced basis. Senior executives are prioritised.
- RSVP is required within 10 business days of receipt of this invitation, by reply to the invite sender.

Media and communications

The event will be held under Chatham House Rules. Media attendance will be controlled. An official Forum Report will be made available following the event. Speakers and delegates have an opportunity to opt-out of the published list of delegates.

The purpose of the forum is to engage and inspire. We encourage attendees to share their perspectives on the event and their own climate journey. We will be engaging with attendees on the day and following the event to collect perspectives, which will feature in the Forum Report. If you are interested in making a specific statement please confirm in your RSVP.